

Legal Notice

Proposed Partial Bond Release for Big Sky Masonry Stone, Inc., Located in Wheatland County, MT

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has received a request for bond release for Big Sky Masonry Stone, Inc. (Big Sky Masonry). Big Sky Masonry is authorized to operate two decorative stone harvesting and quarry sites under Operating Permit No. 00164. The Shawmut site is located on private lands in Section 4 of Township 7 North, Range 17 East, approximately 6.5 miles of the town of Shawmut in Wheatland County. The Barber site is located on private lands in Section 25 of Township 6 North, Range 18 East, approximately 6 miles south of Barber, MT in Wheatland and Golden Valley Counties. Bond release has been requested for the Shawmut site.

DEQ currently holds a reclamation bond in the amount of \$44,784. DEQ is proposing to release \$9,315 and retain \$35,469. The decrease in the bond amount is due to completion of reclamation at the Shawmut site performed by the operator.

Pursuant to Section 82-4-338(5), MCA, DEQ may not release or decrease a reclamation bond until the public has been provided an opportunity for a hearing and a hearing has been held if requested. Requests for a hearing or comments on the proposed bond release must be submitted to DEQ by December 28, 2020, and sent to Herb Rolfes, Department of Environmental Quality, Hard Rock Mining Bureau, PO Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620-0901, or to hrolfes@mt.gov. Information about the proposed bond release may be obtained by contacting Herb Rolfes at (406) 444-3841 or hrolfes@mt.gov.